

REMARKS

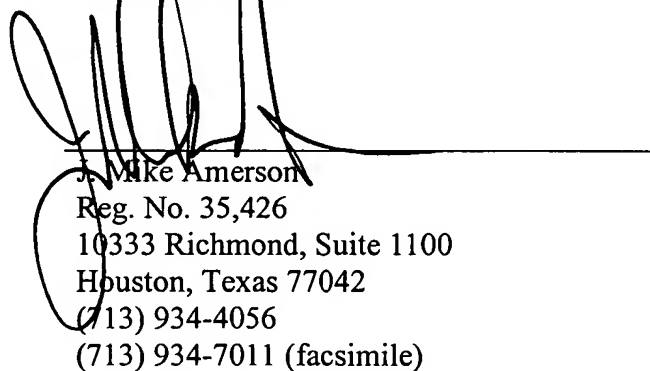
Pursuant to the present amendment, claims 12-14 have been canceled. Thus, claims 15-22 are pending in the present application. Claims 15-22 stand allowed.

As an initial matter, pursuant to the present amendment, claims 12-14 have been canceled. It should be understood that in making the amendments set forth herein, Applicants do not acquiesce in the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejections. Applicants specifically reserve the right to pursue claims of the scope set forth in the rejected claims in a later filed application should they desire to do so.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are in condition for immediate allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at (713) 934-4055 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

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